

# Lewis K. Ferguson

703 N. Woodworth St.

Algona, Iowa - 50511

Phone Area Code 515—No. 295-5278

**REGISTERED ENGINEER**

**LAND SURVEYOR**

4 May 1969

Mr. Agnar Wahlberg  
312 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, calif. 90012

Dear Mr. Wahlberg,

Better than attempting to make rubbings, I will loan you the Sioux City Jail token and then you can do a much better job of collecting the data you require. My rubbing don't come out too well.

For the time being I would rather not part with the item, but when I finish my task I will then disburse the collection. At least that is my intention. I have been a coin collector for many years and just recently sold the collection and built a new house.

You are at liberty to clean the Sioux City Jail token if you so desire.

When you are finished with your processing of the token, please return it.

Sincerely,

*Lewis K. Ferguson*

*acknowledged  
by card 5-12-69*

Life Member

American Numismatic Assn.

Iowa Numismatic Assn

Member

Society of Paper Money Collectors

Token and Medal Society



432 U. S. Court House  
Los Angeles Ca 90012  
May 16, 1969

Mr. Lewis K. Ferguson  
703 North Woodworth Street  
Algona, Iowa 50511

Dear Mr. Ferguson:

Am returning herewith the Sioux City jail token you so kindly loaned me. Believe me, it was a pleasure to see it and possess it even for such a short time. I appreciate your allowing me to clean it, but I do not believe in cleaning coins or tokens, much less somebody else's property. In any event, am enclosing a picture of it for your files.

This appears to be a very interesting token and I would like to find out more about it, perhaps with the idea of writing an article for TAMS. I understand you are or have been a cataloguer of tokens for Iowa. Have you run across any other jail or prison tokens in the state during your research?

Another thing, I would like to get the history of the old Sioux City jail, perhaps a picture of it, with the names of some of the oldtimers or wardens associated with it. Is it still standing or has it been rebuilt? Is there some historical society or museum in the state of Iowa that might have this information? I feel confident with your background of research you no doubt are familiar with some of the avenues I might try, and would ask that you be good enough to give me your views on the subject, or who to contact further along this line.

Also when you finish your task and disperse of your collection, would you be good enough to let me know. I will pay whatever you think this is worth. I also took the liberty of writing my name and address on the back of the 2x2 as a reminder.

Thanking you again for your cooperation and courtesy, I am

Yours very truly,

Agnar Wahlbergs TAMS #1693



# Lewis K. Ferguson

703 N. Woodworth St.

Algona, Iowa - 50511

Phone Area Code 515—No. 295-5278

**REGISTERED ENGINEER**

**LAND SURVEYOR**

24 May 1969

Mr. Agnar Wahlberg  
432 U S Court House  
Los Angeles, calif. 90012

Dear Mr. Wahlberg,

The Sioux City jail token arrived in good order. The envelope in which I sent it you was temporary, but your name is now on the back of the regular holder. Some day you will have it. Thanks for the photo. How do you get such good pictures? One of these days I will have to photo some of my tokens for the publication and don't know much about the subject.

This is the only jail token that I have run across. Sioux City is about 150 mile away and for some unknown reason I don't get into that part of the state very much. I have a trader friend not too far from Sioux City. He is a farmer and avid token collector. It might be that he could find out some of the history behind the token. He is Vinton Woodward, Castana, Iowa 51010.

Sincerely,

*Lewis K. Ferguson*

Life Member

American Numismatic Assn.

Iowa Numismatic Assn

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Token and Medal Society



432 U. S. Court House  
Los Angeles Ca 90012  
April 25, 1969

Mr. Lewis K. Ferguson  
219 River View Drive  
Algona, Iowa 50511

Dear Mr. Ferguson:

Mr. Wm H. Clapper has given me your name and address as the person he gave a city jail token from Sioux City, Iowa, for cataloguing.

I am presently engaged in compiling an up-to-date catalogue of jail and prison tokens, a sort of an extension of what Mr. Burns did in his "Media of Exchange Used in State and Federal Penitentiaries" in 1959. In running down every lead I can get, I was told by Mr. Clapper that you had this token from the Sioux City Jail with the wording "Good for One Meal."

It would certainly be appreciated if you would send me a rubbing of both sides, giving the mm size if possible, the metal, etc. If you have facilities for photographing it, that would be much more preferable and I will gladly pay the cost for doing it. Of course, best of all, if you have finished with cataloguing it and will sell it I will be happy to offer you \$10.00 for it, or whatever you may think reasonable.

Looking forward to an early response, I am

Yours very truly,

Agnar Wahlberg



432 U. S. Court House  
Los Angeles Ca 90012  
May 29, 1969

Mr. Lewis K. Ferguson  
703 North Woodworth Street  
Algona, Iowa 50511

Dear Mr. Ferguson:

Thank you for your letter of May 24 and referring me to Mr. Woodward. I have written him today and asked for his help. I know it is an imposition to ask somebody to take their time to dig up something for someone else, but your phrase "avid token collector" makes me think he might enjoy it.

Now you ask how I made the picture. I have a #350 Polaroid camera and an attachment called Kali-Copier which is made by the Kalimar Company. The copier costs \$9.95 in most camera stores, and I suppose you can use most of the late model Polaroids in conjunction with it. Not only can you take pictures of coins, stamps, etc. but also reproduce or copy any print you have taken. Should you have a lot of photographing to do, it might pay you to talk with your local camera shop for the best deal.

Thank you again for letting me photograph the token and giving me Mr. Woodward's name. If there is anything else I can do to assist you, please do not hesitate to call on me. I also am an "avid token collector."

Cordailly,



# Lewis K. Ferguson

703 N. Woodworth St.

Algona, Iowa - 50511

Phone Area Code 515—No. 295-5278

**REGISTERED ENGINEER**

**LAND SURVEYOR**

19 July 1969

Mr. Agnar Wahlberg  
432 U S Court House  
Los Angeles, calif. 90012

Dear Mr. Wahlberg,

The Sioux City piece is very interesting. I don't have one and will try to check it out when I get to The Big town. Sioux City is in a corner of the state that I don't have an opportunity to visit very often. I thank you very much.

I rather hesitate to ask people to buy tokens for me as the most common tokens are the ones that seem to show up more often. At one time I traded several thousand duplicates to an Illinois friend and now every time I advertise for tokens the same old duplicates come back to haunt me.

I find trade tokens a very interesting hobby. There is so much history behind them and every one seems to be different. Tokens are much more satisfying than coins

Sincerely,



Life Member

American Numismatic Assn.

Iowa Numismatic Assn

Member

Society of Paper Money Collectors

Token and Medal Society

# Lewis K. Ferguson

1605 Roosevelt  
AMES, IOWA 50010

Phone Area Code 515-232-4278

REGISTERED ENGINEER  
LAND SURVEYOR

30 November 1969

Mr. Mr. Agnar Wahlberg  
312 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, calif. 90012

Dear Mr Wahlberg,

I haven't had any luck with the Sioux City Jail token.  
The fellow who had the token traded it and that is the last  
I was able to find out. He wouldn't say to whom he traded it.

Bob Coney, 2627 Myrtle, Sioux City, 51103 (business address  
700 Ross) is an old collector of the Sioux City area. He has been  
a service station operator for many years and has had a coin etc.  
business along with other interests. He also collects Sioux City  
tokens. I think that he was the person who originally had the  
jail token. It might be that if you put "the the pressure" on  
him you might be able to find out where the token went.

Sincerely,





GREEN BASKET  
DESSERT FARMERS MARKET



January 12, 1977

Dear Fergg:

Excuse the letterheard; it is 25 years old;  
I just ran out of my regular stock.

I just noticed that you have taken over the  
Mavericks column task. Assume it is just another  
thing you have found to do since you retired. Am  
sure it will be a source of enjoyment to you.

That brings me to Maverick 7722. One of my  
catagories of collecting is Boys Republics, so am  
familiar with this token. A little background: In  
1895 Mr. George (a New York businessman) founded the  
George Junior Republic on his farm in Freeville, N.Y.  
It proved very popular and soon he had many branches  
in various parts of the East. The one in Litchfield,  
Connecticut became known as the Commonwealth of Lyman  
School. The attribution therefore is Litchfield, Conn.

Am still working on my CCC tokens and every now  
and then I pick one up, but it is getting harder and  
harder to find them. I recently purchased from the  
National Archives a microfilm copy of the Army records  
(file cards) of the CCC camps, which is very interest-  
ing. So if you have any questions on CCCs in your  
field, let me know and perhaps I can help.

My best to Mrs. Gerguson.

Regards,

"TOP OF THE CROP"



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4  
5 December 2, 1975

6 Dear Fergg:

7 I have had this token put aside to ask  
8 you about it, sort of misplaced it, and now  
9 have come across it.

10 As you know, I also collect prison and  
11 jail tokens, and anything having to do with  
12 rehabilitation of people. Have you heard of  
13 this place, Helping Hand Mission, and what  
14 it does. Anything you can tell me about it  
15 would be appreciated.

16 Have a nice holiday.

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Regards,